

SPECIAL MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
April 18, 2013

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Freudmann, Keane, Moran, Paterson, Paulhus, Shapiro,

Staff Present: Town Manager Matt Hart, Director of Finance Cherie Trahan, Assistant Town Manager Maria Capriola, Director of Public Works Lon Hultgren, Board of Education Superintendent Fred Baruzzi

By consensus the Council agreed to move the Board of Education as the next item of business.

II. STAFF REPORTS/COMMUNICATION

The Town Manager reviewed a number of handouts including:

- Clarifications in response to citizen and Council member questions, including information on the number of addresses signed up for the QNotify email distribution list, the number of Facebook viewers and the number of “hits” on the MansfieldCT.gov webpage.
Flag – Staff will further explore the details of the statistics and attempt to determine how many of the users are gathering information about Mansfield as opposed to how many users are a result of school messaging.
- Updated Capital Fund Budget and tax warrant and levy information including proposed funding for the school facility maintenance and technology needs were provided. The formalized vote on this proposed funding scenario will be taken at the April 22, 2013 special meeting.
- Information regarding changes to the preliminary grand list with regards to the Storrs Center project was provided.

III. BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board of Education Members Present: Mark LaPlaca, Shamin Patwa, Katherine Paulhus, Randall Walikonis, Jay Rueckl, April Holinko, Martha Kelly, Susannah Everett

Board Chair Mark LaPlaca stated the proposed 1.7% increase will maintain current instructional programs but does not include any new initiatives.

Those present discussed the guidelines for classroom size, the cost per student, programs offered to students, the role of the Council with regards to Board of Education budget and policy and the cost of maintaining four schools given the declining student enrollment.

IV. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Hultgren provided a review of the Public Works Department CIP requests and the Town Manager reviewed the Community Development CIP requests.

V. CAPITAL NONRECURRING FUND

Ms. Trahan reviewed the sources of funding and the uses of this fund.

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VI. SOLID WASTE FUND

Mr. Hultgren explained the three components of the fund and noted the Town is exploring the implementation of an automated system.

VII. TOWN AID ROAD FUND

Mr. Hultgren commented the major change in the budget for this fund reflects the proposed changes in state funding.

VIII. SEWER FUNDS

Mr. Hultgren reviewed the changes to the Sewer Fund.

IX. DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED BUDGET/COUNCIL QUESTIONS

By consensus the Council agreed to begin the Monday April 22, 2013 special meeting at 6:00 p.m., noting it will not be a work session, and added an opportunity for public comment to the agenda.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

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